

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 36 and 39 without prejudice, and amend claim 34.

1-33. (Canceled).

34. (Currently Amended) A trash can assembly, comprising:

an outer shell having a top edge and a lower end;

a lid pivotably coupled to the outer shell for movement between an open position and a closed position;

an interior defined by the outer shell and the lid;

a pedal pivotably coupled to the lower end of the outer shell, and having an inner end;

a link rod having an upper end pivotably coupled to the lid and a lower end coupled to the inner end of the pedal; [[and]]

a support frame fixedly secured to the top edge of the outer shell, the support frame having a rear section that has a straight portion, with an opening defined between the straight portion and the top edge of the outer shell, and with the link rod extending through the opening; and

_____ rigid liner positioned in the interior and supported by the straight portion.

35. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the opening is located inside the interior.

36. (Canceled).

37. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the straight portion of the support frame is a straight wall.

38. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the support frame has a ridge that extends along top edge.

39. (Canceled).

40. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the support frame is curved.

41. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 34, wherein the support frame is plastic.

42. (Previously Presented) A trash can assembly, comprising:
an outer shell having a top edge and a lower end;
a lid pivotably coupled to the outer shell for movement between an open position and a closed position;
an interior defined by the outer shell and the lid;
a pedal pivotably coupled to the lower end of the outer shell, and having an inner end;
a link rod having an upper end pivotably coupled to the lid and a lower end coupled to the inner end of the pedal;
a support frame fixedly secured to the top edge of the outer shell, the support frame having a rear section that has a straight portion, with an opening defined between the straight portion and the top edge of the outer shell, and with the link rod extending through the opening;
wherein the support frame has a top edge and a thickness, with at least one groove cut from the top edge and through the thickness of the support frame; and
a rigid liner position in the interior and supported by the straight portion.

43. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 42, wherein the support frame is plastic.

44. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 42, wherein the support frame is curved.